Import of LNG

†4239. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to import Liquefied Natural Gas;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this will be more costly as compared to the import of diesel etc., and as a result our indigenous industry will be destroyed; and

(c) if so, whether Government will review this import policy?

THE MINISTER CF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Import of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) is on Open General Licence. Petronet LNG Limited (PLL), a Joint Venture Company of Gas Authority of India Limited, Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited and Bharat Petroleum Corporation limited, is setting up LNG Terminals with regasification facilities of an initial capacity of S.O Million Tonnes Per Annum (MTPA) at Dahej in Gujarat and 2.5 MTPA at Kochi in Kerala. PLL has signed a Sale Purchase Agreement with M/s Ras Gas of Qatar for supply of LNG for these terminals.

(b) No, Sir. Import of LNG is considered cheaper as against diesel. Also, LNG based power generation will be cheaper more than 25% as compared to diesel based power.

(c) Does not arise, in view of (b) above.

LPG distributorship in Kangra district

4240. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 57 given in the Rajya Sabha on 25th February, 1999 and state:

(a) whether the LPG distributorship in Kangra district, Himacbal

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.